United Nations A/C.2/60/L.17

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
1 November 2005

Original: English

**Sixtieth session**
**Second Committee**
Agenda item 54 (b)
**Globalization and interdependence: science and technology for development**

**Jamaica:* draft resolution**

## Science and technology for development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recognizing* the vital role that science, technology and innovation can play in development and in facilitating the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty, achieve food security, fight diseases, accelerate the pace of diversification and transformation and improve productivity and competitiveness,

*Recalling* the development section of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

*Emphasizing* the importance of international support to developing countries to enable them to benefit from technological advances and to enhance their productive capacity,

*Underscoring* the role that traditional knowledge can play in technological development and in the sustainable management and use of natural resources,

*Recognizing* the catalysing role of information and communication technologies in promoting and facilitating the achievement of all development goals, and in this regard stressing the importance of the contribution of the World Summit on the Information Society process to the building of a people-centred, balanced and inclusive information society so as to enhance digital opportunities for all people in order to help bridge the digital divide,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the role played by the International Telecommunication Union in the organization of the two phases of the World Summit and the useful contribution of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to the preparatory process of the Summit,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building of the United Nations Environment Programme,[2] calling for the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

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intensification of ongoing efforts to mobilize resources for its expeditious implementation, and requesting to be kept informed of its implementation,

*Noting with appreciation* the hosting of the second World Information Technology Forum by Botswana, from 31 August to 2 September 2005, in Gaborone,

*Acknowledging* the urgent need to bridge the digital divide and to assist developing countries to benefit from the potential of information and communication technologies,

*Noting with appreciation* the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development during its intersessional period 2004-2005 on "Science and technology promotion, advice and application for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration", in particular, the recommendation to facilitate the establishment of a network of centres of excellence in developing countries[3] that would connect existing outstanding scientific and technological institutions from developing countries to serve as hubs of learning and conduits for the transfer and diffusion of scientific knowledge and information in new and emerging technologies,

*Welcoming* the selection by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development of the substantive theme "Bridging the technology gap between and within nations" for its work during the intersessional period 2005-2006,[3]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on science and technology for development,[4]

*Taking note also* of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development publication *The Digital Divide: ICT Development Indices 2004*,[5]

*Re-emphasizing* the need to strengthen the science and technology programmes of the relevant entities of the United Nations system,

*Emphasizing* that the Commission on Science and Technology for development is the key intergovernmental body on science and technology and in contributing to the follow-up process to all relevant United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

1. *Agrees to*:

(a) Strengthen and enhance existing mechanisms and to support initiatives for research and development, including through voluntary partnerships between the public and private sectors, to address the special needs of developing countries in the areas of health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

(b) Promote and facilitate, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, to developing countries;

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[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 11* (E/2005/31), chap. I.A, draft resolution.

[4] A/60/184.

[5] UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/2005/4, United Nations, New York and Geneva, 2005.

(c) Assist developing countries in their efforts to promote and develop national strategies for human resources and science and technology, which are primary drivers of national capacity-building for development;

(d) Promote and support greater efforts to develop renewable sources of energy, such as solar, wind and geothermal energy;

(e) Implement policies at international and national levels to attract both public and private investment, domestic and foreign, that enhances knowledge, transfers technology on mutually agreed terms and raises productivity;

(f) Support the efforts of developing countries, individually and collectively, to harness new agricultural technologies in order to increase agricultural productivity through environmentally sustainable means;

2. *Invites* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to contribute, within its mandate, to the follow-up and implementation of the measures on science and technology contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome;[1]

3. *Requests* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to explore initiatives aimed at addressing the special needs of the developing countries in areas such as agriculture, information and communication technologies and environmental management;[6]

4. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist developing countries in their efforts to integrate science, technology and innovation policies in national development strategies;

5. *Recognizes* the contribution of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology and its affiliated centres as well as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the area of biotechnology, and encourages these and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system engaged in biotechnology to collaborate with a view to enhancing effectiveness in the implementation of programmes designed to assist developing countries in building productive capacity in all areas of biotechnology, including for industry and agriculture, as well as for risk assessment and management of biosafety;

6. *Stresses* the need to address new challenges of the information society by implementing the outcomes of the Geneva phase of the World Summit on the Information Society[7] and ensuring the success of the second phase of the Summit, to be held in Tunis, from 16 to 18 November 2005, to enable the developing countries to harness the potential of ICT for development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[6] For example, the feasibility of establishing a Global Scientific Research and Development Fund, with a view to implementing recommendation 9 contained in the Millennium Project document, "Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals" (available at http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/index.htm).

[7] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.